

Americans Overseas in U.S. Censuses

by
Karen M. Mills

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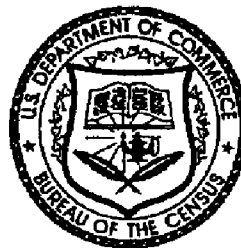
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INTRODUCTION

The decision to enumerate Americans living abroad in U.S. decennial censuses has varied over the years, as well as the decisions of how this population group is defined and where these persons should be counted. This report documents the treatment of Americans living overseas in the decennial censuses, particularly those conducted in the 20th century. Excluded from this discussion are U.S. citizens temporarily abroad on private business, travel, and so forth. Such persons were enumerated in each census at their usual place of residence in the United States as absent members of their own households.

The first Census Act in 1790 stated that each person enumerated in the census of the United States was to be counted as an inhabitant of his or her "usual place of abode."¹ The concept of usual residence as the overriding criterion for where to count a person thus was established for the first census and has been the guiding principle in all subsequent censuses. Usual residence generally has been construed to mean the place where the person lives and sleeps most of the time. Instructions that included residence rules specifying where to count various classes of persons have been furnished to census takers since 1820 (to marshals and their assistants from 1820-70 and to enumerators beginning in 1880).

The implementation of the concept of usual residence in decennial censuses also has resulted in the establishment of residence rules for certain categories of persons whose usual place of residence is not immediately apparent. The population segment of Americans living overseas traditionally has been one of these categories.²

Table 1 lists the residence rules given to census takers for Americans living abroad for an extended period and for crews of U.S. merchant vessels at sea. As this table illustrates, the residence rules for these groups changed considerably from census to census.

Various types of materials were used in preparing this report. Census reports and other *published* documents such as procedural histories were reviewed for each census from 1790 to 1970 to determine whether Americans overseas were reported in the census. However, given that published historical census documentation on the treatment of Americans overseas was often meager,

fragmentary, and sketchy—particularly before 1950—other sources were consulted as well. For the 1900 to 1920 censuses, microfilm of the census schedules used for enumerating Americans abroad or at sea were examined at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, DC. For the 1930 and 1940 censuses, the microfilmed census schedules were reviewed at the Census Bureau's Data Preparation Division in Jeffersonville, IN. Finally, to gather information on the overseas census planning and reporting since 1950, *unpublished* reports and position papers, internal memorandums, and copies of correspondence also were studied.

A major observation that emerged from reviewing these historic materials was the lack of a single conceptual thread running through the censuses concerning how Americans abroad fit into the overall decennial enumeration. It was partly this absence that led to the inconsistencies—evident in this report—in census treatment of Americans overseas. Different definitions of the population components that were included and in the areas that were considered overseas, varying instructions to census takers regarding where to enumerate this population, and differences in procedures and methods of data collection (administrative records, direct enumeration, or a combination of the two) all contributed to a lack of uniformity in treatment over the years. Legal and political considerations also played an important role in formulating the Census Bureau's concept and policy of who to count overseas and where to count them. Cross-cutting all of these issues has been the fact that decisions relating to overseas enumeration for a specific census have reflected the overall census procedures and prevailing societal conditions (for example, the presence of military conflicts or economic downturns).

For the censuses since 1900, counts of the American overseas population and its components generally have been published in table 1 of *Number of Inhabitants, United States Summary*. In the censuses of 1950-70, Americans overseas also were shown by selected demographic characteristics (for example, age, race, sex, and nativity) in a table in *General Demographic Characteristics, United States Summary*. Special subject reports were issued in the 1960 and 1970 censuses on U.S. civilians abroad for an extended period. (See "References" for exact citations.)

In this report, the terms "abroad" and "overseas" are used interchangeably. The countries considered as "living abroad" have varied and were specified in census reports only in 1950-70 and 1990.

¹The synonym "usual place of residence" was introduced in the 1940 instructions to enumerators.

²Other categories of persons for which specific residence rules are determined at each census include persons away from their usual residence on Census Day; college students; boarding school students; members of the Armed Forces, including Navy afloat; persons in institutions; crews of U.S. merchant marine vessels not at sea; persons with multiple residence; migrant workers; and persons with no permanent residence.

Table 1. Residence Rules Pertaining to Americans Overseas: 1870-1990

[Beginning in 1820, census takers were supplied with printed instructions to clarify who should be enumerated in their district. Census years not listed below did not include residence rules for the overseas component]

U.S. Military Personnel Stationed Abroad or at Sea

1870, 1880, 1900	Enumerate at stateside home (also may have been included in overseas population in 1900)
1910-90	Do not enumerate at stateside home (included in overseas population)

Federal Civilian Employees Stationed Abroad

1900.....	Enumerate at stateside home (also may have been included in overseas population)
1910-30, 1950-90	Do not enumerate at stateside home (included in overseas population)

Crews of U.S. Merchant Marine Vessels at Sea

1870, 1880, 1910, 1920	Enumerate at stateside home (not included in overseas population)
1930, 1940	Enumerate officers at stateside home. Do not enumerate crews at stateside home. All merchant vessels were homeported, regardless of location, so crews were not included in overseas population
1950-90	Do not enumerate at stateside home 1950, 1960—included in overseas population if vessel was at sea or in a foreign port 1970—included in overseas population if vessel was at sea with a foreign port as its designation or in a foreign port 1980—not included in overseas population 1990—included in overseas population if vessel was sailing from one foreign port to another or in a foreign port

Private U.S. Citizens Abroad for an Extended Period

1910-40	Enumerate at stateside home (not included in overseas population)
1960-90	Do not enumerate at stateside home (included in overseas population only in 1960 and 1970)

OVERVIEW

Only twice in the first 100 years since census-taking began in the United States in 1790 were separate counts of the American overseas population reported in the decennial censuses. The **1830 census** was the first to include counts for any segment of the overseas population. The total U.S. population reported for this census and for the **1840 census** included persons on U.S. naval vessels at sea. It was not until 60 years later, in the 1900 census, that counts of the overseas population again were reported. Since then, overseas counts have been reported in every decennial census.

Table 2 provides historical counts of the U.S. population abroad or at sea reported in the decennial censuses, and table 3 lists the data collection forms used to enumerate components of the American overseas population.

The **1900** and **1910 censuses** enumerated the U.S. population abroad on the same forms as those used stateside. The **1920 census** was the first to use special forms to enumerate the population abroad. The **1930 census** again enumerated Americans overseas on the general stateside population schedule.

Although microfilm of **1940 census** records shows Americans abroad enumerated on census schedules, a 1950 census report stated that in the 1940 census, the War and Navy Departments provided the Census Bureau with the number of their personnel stationed abroad, and the State Department furnished counts of Americans in the diplomatic service abroad and their dependents living with them.

The **1950 census** was the first to make provision for the actual enumeration of Americans abroad or at sea on special individual or household census forms. (The special 1920 form was a listing form.) The overseas groups enumerated were U.S. military personnel and Federal civilian employees, their dependents living with them, and crews of U.S. merchant vessels at sea or docked in a foreign port. The 1950 overseas enumeration was conducted through cooperative arrangements with the Departments of Defense and State and the Maritime Administration.

In the **1960 census**, special census report forms were used to enumerate the same overseas groups as in 1950, again with the cooperation of the Departments of Defense and State and the Maritime Administration. In addition, for the first time (the only other being 1970), a special effort was made to obtain voluntary reports from private U.S. citizens not affiliated with the Federal Government who were abroad for an extended period. The reporting of these private U.S. citizens was not complete, however, and understated the true number of these persons abroad.

The same components of Americans overseas were included again in the **1970 census**. However, counts of Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps personnel stationed abroad were based on administrative records provided by the Department of Defense (DOD), rather than by direct enumeration on census forms. Census forms were used to enumerate the following:

- Dependents living with the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps personnel abroad
- Land-based Navy and Coast Guard personnel stationed abroad and their dependents living with them
- Crews of U.S. military vessels deployed to the 6th or 7th Fleets
- Federal civilian employees stationed abroad and their dependents living with them
- Crews of U.S. merchant vessels at sea with a foreign port as their destination or docked in a foreign port
- Private U.S. citizens living abroad for an extended period and their dependents living with them³

The 1970 census was the first in which certain categories of Americans overseas officially were included in the congressional apportionment population.⁴ In this census, the apportionment population was expanded to include certain segments of the relatively large number of U.S. citizens who were overseas at that time. These included Federal employees (both military and civilian) and their dependents living with them who resided in a U.S. commonwealth or territory or a foreign country and reported a home State.

The change in the definition of the apportionment population was made in response to bipartisan congressional concern for the substantial numbers of Americans

³As in 1960, the reporting of this group was not complete and understated the true number of these persons abroad.

⁴In most censuses, the apportionment population base is the resident population for each of the 50 States and is used to determine the number of seats allotted to each State in the U.S. House of Representatives. The apportionment population excludes the District of Columbia. By law, the Secretary of Commerce must deliver the apportionment counts to the President within 9 months of Census Day. Thus, for censuses conducted on April 1, this date would be December 31.

Enumerator instructions for the 1900-40 censuses (and perhaps some pre-1900 censuses such as 1850, 1870, and 1880) may have resulted in some Americans overseas being included in the apportionment population for these years. Enumerators were instructed in these censuses to report certain Americans abroad as residents of their stateside home. Thus, these persons would have been included in the resident population, which is used to calculate the apportionment.

who would have been enumerated in their home States on April 1, 1970, except for their assignment to duty stations overseas as military or civilian employees of the U.S. Government. In particular, the scale of U.S. activities in Southeast Asia meant unusually large numbers of military personnel were stationed overseas on Census Day.

In prior decennial censuses, the number of Federal Government personnel on duty overseas was relatively small and had never been included in the apportionment population. Attorney General J. Howard McGrath, when consulted in 1949, stated that exclusion of the overseas population from the apportionment count, as was done in 1940 and prior censuses and as was being proposed for 1950, was not contrary to the requirements of the Constitution or applicable law. The opinion stated, in part, "The Congress has vested in the Director of the Census, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Commerce, discretion to determine the manner in which inhabitants of the United States who are abroad...shall be enumerated...."

In 1969, this matter was brought to the attention of the House Subcommittee on Census and Statistics of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service (which had immediate congressional oversight of the Census Bureau) during its hearings on the "1970 Census and Legislation Related Thereto." The subcommittee, recognizing the larger numbers of U.S. military and Federal civilian personnel expected to be overseas at the time of the 1970 census, recommended that these Americans be counted in the apportionment population. Congressional questions also were raised in 1969 at hearings before the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Also in 1969, the Department of Commerce sought a ruling from the Department of Justice on the legality of the proposed procedure to include certain components of the overseas population in the 1970 State apportionment totals. The opinion letter was written by then-Assistant Attorney General William Rehnquist, who perceived no objection to their inclusion and stated that "the Director of the Census may, in his discretion, validly adopt that procedure."⁵

Allocations of the 1970 overseas population for apportionment purposes were made at the State level only. Allocations were not made to subdivisions within a State, as this would have required U.S. street addresses. U.S. street address was not asked on the Overseas Census Report or the Report for Military and Maritime Personnel.

⁵In 1967, the Census Bureau had evaluated the possible effects on apportionment that would have resulted if Federal Government overseas personnel and their dependents—estimated to be somewhat fewer than 2 million persons—were included in the apportionment count. It was determined that their inclusion at that time would not have resulted in any State having its congressional representation changed since the estimated 2 million persons overseas, although a large number by itself, was less than 1 percent of the total U.S. population and had approximately the same State-by-State distribution as the resident population. The actual 1970 overseas population (1,574,537) added to the apportionment base (resident population of each State minus the District of Columbia) caused a congressional seat to be shifted from Connecticut to Oklahoma by fewer than 300 persons.

This detailed information also was not included in DOD's administrative counts, by home State of record, for Army, Air Force, or Marine Corps personnel stationed abroad. Thus, the within-State redistricting process used different numbers as its base than the between-State reapportionment.

In *Bethel Park v. Stans*, an appellate court held in 1971 that neither the U.S. Constitution nor the Census Act demanded allocation of persons to a particular subdivision of a State for apportionment purposes. Moreover, the court held that the Census Bureau, in determining the number of representatives to which each State was entitled, could properly allocate overseas military and Federal civilian personnel and their dependents to the State of their "home of record" and not to any political subdivision within the State.

The overseas enumerations associated with the 1950-70 censuses were necessarily conducted under operational conditions very different from those used in the stateside censuses. The decentralized and globally far-flung nature of these overseas operations prevented the utilization of most of the standard review and quality control procedures used stateside.

For the **1980 census**, the Census Bureau decided not to enumerate Americans overseas directly, as had been done in censuses since 1950, but to use administrative records instead. The reasons for this departure in practice from recent past censuses were the following:

- The number of Americans overseas was much smaller than in 1970.
- There were no plans to include Americans overseas in the apportionment population, as was done in 1970. In testimony in 1976 before the House Subcommittee on Census and Population (formerly the Subcommittee on Census and Statistics) of the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, the Deputy Director of the Census Bureau outlined the proposed rules of residence for the 1980 census. He indicated that the Bureau did not plan to include any component of Americans overseas in the apportionment population for 1980. The subcommittee raised no objections to that proposal.
- There were no constitutional or other legal mandates requiring the direct enumeration of Americans living overseas. Title 13 of the U.S. Code stated that the census enumeration should include each State, the District of Columbia, and its territories and possessions; it did not require the enumeration of Americans living in foreign countries.
- There were no Federal program requirements for data on Americans overseas, and very little use was made of the information on Americans overseas that had been collected in past censuses. The Departments of Defense and State and, to a lesser extent, other government agencies having employees abroad, maintained their own records for these personnel.

- Data were readily available from administrative records for Americans overseas affiliated with the Federal Government. Data on overseas Armed Forces personnel, Federal civilian employees, and their dependents living with them could be obtained from the Departments of Defense and State and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).
- Complete or even adequate counts of private Americans overseas not affiliated with the Federal Government could not be obtained in 1960 and 1970, when special efforts were made to enumerate these persons, and there was some question as to whether this universe could be properly defined. Major problems associated with obtaining an accurate count of this component included the voluntary basis on which this group had to be enumerated (respondents had to go to a U.S. embassy or consulate to obtain a form), the lack of up-to-date embassy and consulate mailing lists for Americans living in their jurisdictions, and the definitional problem of who should be included in such an enumeration.

With regard to the definitional issue, many alternatives could be considered. For example, should an enumeration of private Americans overseas include all persons with a claim to U.S. citizenship? Only U.S. citizens who intended to return to the United States? All persons born in the United States (some of whom would have gone on to become citizens of the country in which they currently resided)? Only those citizens eligible to vote? Only those tied financially to the United States, such as Social Security beneficiaries or employees of U.S. or multinational corporations? People having dual (U.S. and second-nation) citizenship?

It was believed that even if a clear operational definition of this universe could have been developed, it still would have been necessary to contact a much broader range of potential respondents in order to identify those who actually met the conceptual criteria for inclusion.

The **1990 census**, for only the second time in census history, included certain components of Americans overseas in the apportionment population. The overseas components included were members of the Armed Forces, Federal civilian employees, and their dependents living with them. Counts of these persons were obtained from 30 Federal departments and agencies and were based primarily on administrative records.

A significant factor in the Census Bureau's decision to allocate segments of the overseas population to their home State for apportionment purposes was the substantial amount of bipartisan congressional support given to this matter late in the 1980 decade. Several bills requiring inclusion of overseas military personnel in the apportionment counts were introduced in both houses of the 100th and 101st Congresses.

The Department of Commerce, in an August 1989 press release, announced plans to include overseas military and civilian DOD employees in the 1990 census apportionment

population. In addition, the Deputy Director of the Census Bureau testified before the House Subcommittee on Census and Population in September 1989 that the Bureau would include overseas military and civilian DOD employees and their associated dependents in the 1990 apportionment counts. He cited several reasons for the decision:

- The 1969 Justice Department opinion recognizing that the Director of the Census Bureau had discretionary authority to decide whether to include overseas Americans in the apportionment population.
- Bipartisan congressional support for including overseas military personnel.
- The DOD's decision that it could provide the necessary data to the Bureau in time to meet the December 31, 1990 deadline for reporting apportionment counts to the President.

About the time of the hearing, the DOD, with technical assistance from the Census Bureau, planned to enumerate its overseas personnel and dependents concurrent with the 1990 stateside census enumeration. These data would be used by the Bureau for inclusion in the apportionment counts and by DOD for a variety of programs.

The Deputy Director further testified that these overseas personnel and their dependents would have maintained a usual residence in the United States had they not been assigned abroad in fulfillment of their military and professional obligations.

Because of a lack of funding and other constraints, in December 1989, the DOD cancelled its plans to conduct an overseas enumeration but agreed to provide overseas counts from its existing automated administrative records. The DOD identified three alternative methods from its administrative files for determining home State affiliation of its overseas military personnel:

- Home of record—State declared by the member of the Armed Forces to be the permanent home at time of entry or reenlistment into the service. Home of record is used to determine the travel stipend granted upon discharge (derived from personnel files).
- Legal residence—State of residence a member declares for State income tax withholding purposes (derived from payroll files).
- Last duty station—State location of the facility to which the member was assigned before going overseas (derived from personnel files).

After reviewing the three data sources available in DOD records for providing counts, the Census Bureau concluded in July 1990 that DOD's "home of record" was the most consistent with the concept of "usual residence," used since 1790 as the basis for determining residency in the decennial census. Also, home of record was the concept used in allocating most overseas military personnel in the 1970 census.

In many cases, legal residence might reflect a State chosen because it had no or low taxes or one where military personnel were exempt from paying income taxes. A 1987 General Accounting Office report had indicated that a significant proportion of military personnel declared their legal residence in one of the States that did not tax personal wages or exempted all military pay from their income.

The use of last duty station, reflecting the location of the last facility to which a person was assigned, would result in counting some military personnel and their dependents in States other than their actual previous U.S. residence. For example, those assigned to the Pentagon would be counted as District of Columbia residents even though they might have actually lived in Maryland or Virginia (although physically located in Virginia, the Pentagon has a duty station of the District of Columbia).

Furthermore, one bill requiring the inclusion of overseas military personnel and dependents in the apportionment population (H.R. 4903) mandated the use of "home of record." That bill passed the House of Representatives in June 1990, and a similar proposal (S. 2675) had been referred to the appropriate Senate committee for consideration.⁶

In response to the strong congressional support for the use of home of record data, the Commerce Department decided to use those data, supplemented and improved with DOD's automated records for missing information, as the basis for including overseas military and dependents in the 1990 apportionment counts.

A June 1990 Congressional Research Service report for Congress found that allocating military personnel by State using home of record most closely resembled the State-by-State distribution of the resident population. An allocation based on last duty station varied from the resident population distribution by 10 times as much as home of record, and legal residence, by nearly 3 times as much.

In addition to the arrangement made with DOD for obtaining counts of its overseas military personnel, the Census Bureau obtained counts of overseas personnel by home State from 29 other Federal agencies. These counts were based principally on administrative records from the employing agency. The DOD also conducted a survey of

its overseas civilian employees and dependents using a short, self-administered questionnaire.

As in the 1970 census, allocations of the 1990 overseas population for apportionment purposes were made at the State level only. This population was not included, therefore, in the substate counts used for redistricting because the administrative records did not contain detailed (street/place) addresses.

In May 1991, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts filed a legal challenge against the Secretary of Commerce and others. One of the issues in the case was the constitutionality and/or legality of including overseas U.S. military and Federal civilian employees and their dependents living with them in the 1990 census counts used to apportion the U.S. House of Representatives. Massachusetts lost its 11th House seat by a narrow margin as a result of the apportionment after the 1990 census. This seat, the 435th House seat allocated under the apportionment formula, was shifted to Washington State.

The 1990 census apportionment, calculated by the "method of equal proportions" that had been used since the 1940 census, assigned a priority value to each congressional seat. Constitutionally, every State starts with one seat. Under the method of equal proportions, additional seats are added to each State's delegation based on the priority value for that State's next seat relative to the other 49 States' priority values for their next seats. Using the 1990 apportionment population, Washington's 9th seat was the 435th and last seat assigned; Massachusetts' 11th seat would have been the 436th.

In February 1992, a three-judge panel of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts held that the decision of the Secretary of Commerce to include overseas military and Federal civilian employees and their dependents living with them in the apportionment counts was "arbitrary and capricious" under the standards of the Federal Administrative Procedure Act.

In an appeal by the Commerce Department, the U.S. Supreme Court in June 1992 unanimously reversed the three-judge panel's decision. Thus, the Secretary of Commerce's decision to allocate Federal military and civilian personnel serving abroad and their dependents living with them to the State population totals for purposes of apportioning the U.S. House of Representatives was allowed to stand and, as a result, Massachusetts lost a seat in the House of Representatives.

⁶Once the Census Bureau decided to include overseas military personnel and their dependents in the apportionment population, no further action was taken in the 101st Congress on this matter.

Table 2. Americans Overseas, by Type: 1830, 1840, and 1900-90

[In 1850-90 censuses, no figures were published for Americans overseas]

Year	Total, U.S. population abroad ¹	Federal employees			Dependents of Federal employees (Armed Forces and civilian)	Crews of U.S. merchant vessels	Private U.S. citizens
		Total	Armed Forces	Civilians			
1990.....	² 925 845	(NA)	³ 529 269	⁴ (NA)	⁴ (NA)	⁵ 3 026	(NA)
1980.....	995 546	562 962	³ 515 408	⁶ 47 554	⁶ 432 584	(NA)	(NA)
1970.....	1 737 836	1 114 224	⁷ 1 057 776	⁸ 56 448	⁸ 371 366	⁹ 15 910	¹⁰ 236 336
1960.....	1 374 421	647 730	¹¹ 609 720	⁸ 38 010	⁸ 506 393	¹² 32 464	¹⁰ 187 834
1950.....	¹³ 481 545	328 505	¹⁴ 301 595	⁸ 26 910	⁸ 107 350	¹⁵ 45 690	(NA)
1940.....	¹⁶ 118 933	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1930.....	¹⁷ 89 453	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1920.....	¹⁸ 117 238	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1910.....	¹⁷ 55 608	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1900.....	¹⁹ 91 219	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1840.....	²⁰ 6 100	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)
1830.....	²⁰ 5 318	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)

(NA) Not available.

¹Excludes U.S. citizens temporarily abroad on private business, travel, etc. Such persons were enumerated at their usual place of residence in the United States as absent members of their own households. Also excludes private, non-federally affiliated U.S. citizens living abroad for an extended period, except for 1970 and 1960, which include portions of this subpopulation.

²Excludes 9,460 persons overseas whose home State was not designated and 16,999 persons overseas whose designated home "State" was a U.S. commonwealth or territory.

³Based on administrative records provided by Department of Defense.

⁴Not shown separately. Total number reported of overseas Federal civilian employees and dependents (of both military and civilian personnel) was 393,550. Based on administrative records provided by 30 Federal agencies (including Department of Defense) and survey results provided by Department of Defense.

⁵Vessels sailing from one foreign port to another or in a foreign port. Overseas status based on Census Location Report.

⁶Based on administrative records provided by Office of Personnel Management and Departments of Defense and State.

⁷For members of the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps abroad, based on administrative records provided by Department of Defense. Crews of deployed U.S. military vessels were enumerated on Report for Military and Maritime Personnel. Land-based Navy and Coast Guard personnel abroad were enumerated on Overseas Census Report.

⁸Enumerated on Overseas Census Report.

⁹Vessels at sea with a foreign port as their destination or in a foreign port. Enumerated on Report for Military and Maritime Personnel.

¹⁰U.S. citizens living abroad for an extended period not affiliated with the Federal Government and their overseas dependents. Enumerated on Overseas Census Report.

¹¹Enumerated on Overseas Census Report and Report for Military and Maritime Personnel.

¹²Vessels at sea or in a foreign port. Enumerated on Report for Military and Maritime Personnel.

¹³Based on 20-percent sample of reports received.

¹⁴Enumerated on Overseas Census Report and Crews of Vessels Report.

¹⁵Vessels at sea or in a foreign port. Enumerated on Crews of Vessels Report.

¹⁶Source of overseas count is unclear; see section on 1940 census.

¹⁷Enumerated on general population schedule.

¹⁸Enumerated on report for Military and Naval Population, Etc., Abroad.

¹⁹Enumerated on report for Military and Naval Population and report for Civilians, Residents of U.S. at Military or Naval Stations.

²⁰Persons on naval vessels in the service of the United States.

Table 3. Data Collection Forms Used to Enumerate Americans Overseas: 1900-30, 1950-70, and 1990

[Source of 1940 overseas count is unclear. Forms were not used to enumerate the overseas population in 1980. Forms are Census Bureau forms except 1990 DOD survey form]

Census	Form number and title	Use in overseas data collection	Distribution
1900	7-413, Schedule No. 1, Population—Military and Naval Population ¹	Listing sheet to enumerate U.S. military and naval personnel stationed abroad or at sea on June 1, 1900 (4-page booklet, 50 person lines on each page).	Unknown
	7-224, Schedule No. 1, Population—Civilians, Residents of the United States at Military or Naval Stations ¹	Listing sheet to enumerate overseas military dependents, Federal civilian employees at military and naval stations abroad, and their dependents living with them on June 1, 1900 (2 sides, 50 person lines on each side).	Unknown
1910	General Population Schedule ¹	Listing sheet to enumerate U.S. military and naval personnel stationed abroad or at sea, Federal civilian employees at military and naval stations abroad, and their dependents living with them on April 15, 1910 (2 sides, 50 person lines on each side).	Unknown
1920	D7-686, Military and Naval Population, Etc., Abroad	Listing sheet to enumerate U.S. military personnel stationed abroad, persons abroad in the service of the American Red Cross or U.S. consular service, their dependents living with them, and crews of U.S. naval vessels abroad or in American waters, but not on fixed station, on January 1, 1920 (2 sides, 50 person lines on each side).	Unknown
1930	15-6, General Population Schedule ¹	Listing sheet to enumerate U.S. military personnel stationed abroad, persons abroad in the service of the American Red Cross or U.S. consular service, their dependents living with them, and crews of U.S. naval vessels abroad or in American waters, but not on fixed station, on April 1, 1930 (2 sides, 50 person lines on each side).	Unknown
1950	P4, Crews of Vessels Report ¹	Individual form to enumerate crews of U.S. military and merchant marine vessels in foreign ports or at sea on April 1, 1950.	Shipped to U.S. Navy and Coast Guard vessels and shipowners of private lines. Shipowners mailed forms to all vessels.
	P5, Overseas Census Report	Household form to enumerate U.S. military personnel and Federal civilian employees stationed abroad, their dependents living with them, and private U.S. citizens and their dependents living abroad on April 1, 1950.	Distributed and collected by DOD for its personnel and dependents abroad and by Department of State for other Americans living abroad.
1960	60PH-13, Report for Military and Maritime Personnel ¹	Individual form to enumerate crews of U.S. military and merchant marine vessels in foreign ports or at sea on April 1, 1960.	Shipped to U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, and U.S. merchant marine vessels, with the cooperation of DOD, Coast Guard, Maritime Administration, and shipowners.
	60PH-15, Overseas Census Report	Household form to enumerate U.S. military personnel and Federal civilian employees stationed abroad, their dependents living with them, and private U.S. citizens and their dependents living abroad on April 1, 1960.	Distributed and collected by DOD for its personnel and dependents abroad and by Department of State for other Americans living abroad.
1970	D-21, Report for Military and Maritime Personnel ¹	Individual form to enumerate crews of deployed U.S. military vessels and merchant marine vessels in foreign ports or at sea with a foreign port as their destination on April 1, 1970.	Shipped to U.S. Navy, Coast Guard, and U.S. merchant marine vessels, with the cooperation of DOD, Coast Guard, Maritime Administration, and shipowners.
	D-23, Overseas Census Report	Household form to enumerate overseas land-based Navy and Coast Guard personnel, all overseas military dependents, Federal civilian employees stationed abroad, their dependents living with them, and private U.S. citizens and their dependents living abroad on April 1, 1970. (DOD provided counts of Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps personnel abroad on April 1, 1970.)	Distributed and collected by DOD for its personnel and dependents abroad and by Department of State for other Americans living abroad.

See footnote at end of table.

Table 3. Data Collection Forms Used to Enumerate Americans Overseas: 1900-30, 1950-70, and 1990—Continued

[Source of 1940 overseas count is unclear. Forms were not used to enumerate the overseas population in 1980. Forms are Census Bureau forms except 1990 DOD survey form]

Census	Form number and title	Use in overseas data collection	Distribution
1990	D-47, 1990 Census Location Report for American Flag Vessels	Reporting form used by shipmasters of U.S. merchant marine vessels to determine location of vessels.	Mailed to shipowners of private lines, with the cooperation of the Maritime Administration. Shipowners mailed forms to all vessels.
	D-55, Overseas Personnel and Dependents—Counts by State of Residence	Reporting form used by Federal agencies to provide home State for their overseas personnel and dependents.	Mailed to Federal agencies having overseas personnel.
	(DOD form) 1990 Survey of DOD Overseas Civilian Personnel and Dependents	DOD household survey form to enumerate DOD civilian employees stationed abroad on March 31, 1990 and their dependents living with them.	Distributed and collected by DOD.

¹Used primarily to enumerate the stateside population.